

The recent actions by Sinclair Broadcast Group have illustrated the dangers to localism caused by media consolidation. One company controlling what is broadcast over more than 60 stations demonstrates a company using free airwaves to disseminate their own information and agenda.

Stations using the public airwaves free of charge, are obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we lose the 'voice of the people'. No longer are the stations providing local listeners with local information and/or nonpartisan views, but rather we get information handed down from a big company board room. This is certainly not what 'local media' is about.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to be restructured and revamped. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,  
Linda M. Schrading